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CLAIMS

1. A measurement system for use in computer aided manufacture or computer
aided inspection comprising a base measurement system (4, 5a, 5b, 7a, 7b) and a
5 sensor means (2), the sensor means being movable independently of the base
measurement system and being arranged to determine the distance between the
sensor means and a selected point, the base measurement system being arranged
to determine the position of the sensor means relative to the base measurement
system, the system comprising processor means (4) being arranged to receive
10 information generated by the base measurement system and the sensor means and
the processor means being further arranged to derive position information relating to
the selected point relative to the base measurement system.
2. A system according to claim 1, wherein the base measurement system is further
15 arranged to determine the orientation of the sensor means with respect to the base
measurement system.
3. A system according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein, the processor means is
arranged to derive the orientation of features measured by the sensor means relative
20 to the base measurement system.
4. A system according to any preceding claim, wherein the sensor means is a laser
stripe scanner.
- 25 5. A system according to any preceding claim, wherein the base measurement
system comprises at least one imaging device and/or at least one laser tracker.
6. A system according to any preceding claim, wherein the sensor means
comprises at least one position indicating means having a light source and a retro-
30 reflector.

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7. A system according to any preceding claim, further comprising memory means associated with the processor means, the memory means storing CAD data relating to the sensor means.
- 5 8. A system according to any preceding claim, further comprising handling means arranged to manipulate the sensor means and a tool mounted on the handling means.
9. A method of measuring position information in computer aided manufacture or
10 computer aided inspection, the method comprising the steps of:
 positioning a first measurement device in relation to a point to be measured;
 generating with the first measurement device distance information relating to the point;
 generating with a second measurement device, that is positionable
15 independently of the first measurement device, position information relating to the first measurement device; and
 determining with the distance information and the position information further position information, the further position information relating to the position of the measured point relative to the position of the second measurement device.
- 20 10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the step of generating position information relating to the first measurement device further comprises the steps of;
 imaging at least a portion of the first measurement device or a structure associated with the first measurement device with the second measurement device;
25 and
 calculating at least one vector passing between the second measurement device and a known point on the imaged portion of the first measurement device or structure.
- 30 11. A component or structure whose manufacture includes the method of claims 9 or 10.
12. An aircraft whose manufacture includes the method of claims 9 or 10.

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13. A computer program comprising program code means for performing the method steps of claims 9 or 10 when the program is run on a computer and/or other processing means associated with suitable measurement devices.

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14. A computer program product comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for performing the method steps of claims 9 or 10 when the program is run on a computer and/or other processing means associated with suitable measurement devices.